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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : BRANDT et al.
Serial No : 10/070,934
Confirm. No : 4746
Filed : March 11, 2002
For : WATCH MOVEMENT...
Art Unit : 2841
Examiner : Vit W. Miska
Dated : September 8, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT

The Notice dated August 19, 2004 indicated that the May 26, 2004 reply was not responsive for failing to point out specific distinctions believed to render new claims 17, 18 and 20-22 patentable over the references.

Applicant has reviewed the application, and notes that claim 17 is an independent claim. The May 26, 2004 reply indicates on page 8, line 5, that the present independent claims set forth a watch movement with a first or main axis, and a plurality of other axes. The reply then continues to describe the plurality of other axes. The reply then further indicates that there is no teaching nor suggestion of the plurality of other axes in the '440 reference.

The May 26, 2004 reply therefore has presented arguments indicating how independent claim 17 is patentable over the references. Since claim 17 is an independent claim, and the arguments describe how the independent claims define over the references, the arguments for

the independent claims apply to claim 17.

Claim 18 sets forth several further features of the substantially straight line that passes perpendicularly through the plurality of aligned axes. Since '440 does not have a plurality of aligned axes on a substantially straight line, '440 cannot describe all the further features of the substantially straight line.

Claim 20 depends from claim 19, and the combination sets forth four additional hands. All of these additional hands pivot around one of the plurality of aligned axes which are aligned on the substantially straight line. Applicant finds no teaching nor suggestion in '440 of four additional hands each pivoting around one of the plurality of aligned axes. Therefore claim 20 further defines over '440.

Claim 21 sets forth that the dial is arranged on a case and the plate is connected to the case. Claim 21 then further sets forth that additional hands are arranged in a module mounted on the plate, and that the additional hands are pivotably mounted to the plate. Applicant finds no teaching nor suggestion of additional hands being arranged in a module mounted on the plate connected to a case where a dial is arranged on the case. Applicant notes that Figure 1 of '440 is a schematic illustration and does not indicate a module or actual physical structure for a connection.

Claim 22 sets forth the features of claims 20 and 21. Claim 22 therefore further defines over '440 for all of the reasons of claims 20 and 21.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which would further favorable prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative




by telephone to discuss possible changes.

Favorable action on the merits of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By: _____


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BY:  DATE: September 8, 2004